

Torrance, California
April 11, 1956

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an Adjourned Meeting at 8:00 P. M. Wednesday, April 11, 1956, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by the Deputy City Clerk were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Schwab, and Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMAN: Blount. City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Hall were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. Davisson led the salute to our Flag.

Councilman Schwab opened the meeting with an invocation.

Mayor Isen moved that the Council extend their congratulations to Councilman Benstead and Councilman Drale, the two incumbents who have been re-elected to the Council.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council held April 3, 1956.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. March 29, 1956, statement of gross receipts by Richfield Oil Corporation, regarding pipeline Franchise, covering calendar year 1955, with check attached in the amount of \$221.75.

There were no objections, and the letter was ordered filed and the check accepted.

2. Statement from the Texas Company dated April 2, 1956, with check in the amount of \$8.63 covering franchise payment for the calendar year of 1955 attached.

There were no objections, and the letter was ordered filed and the check accepted.

3. Letter dated March 28, 1956, from the County Boundary Commission of the County of Los Angeles, signed by James S. Allison, Secretary, regarding "Knolls Annexation No. 1" detachment from Los Angeles.

There were no objections and this was ordered filed.

4. A communication dated April 3, 1956, from the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, File 5-320.10.14, signed by A. M. Rawn, Chief Engineer and General Manager, proposing connection to Torrance City Sewers in the Palos Verdes Area.

Councilman Drale moved to refer this to the Staff for their recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objection, so ordered.

5. Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read in full a letter from Torrance Industries Tax Committee, dated March 28, 1956, and signed by Reed H. Parkin, Chairman, agreeing that the City needs more recreational facilities but urgently recommending that the City not use properties zoned for manufacturing for this purpose, or change the zone of properties zoned for manufacturing.

There were no objections and the letter was ordered filed.

6. March 29, 1956, request from the Military Order of the Purple Heart for permission to exhibit a display of antique and modern firearms and war equipment for the general welfare and hospital work among their members. This exhibit will be mounted on a truck. The date was not given.

Councilman Benstead moved the request be granted.
 Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered.
 Mayor Isen instructed the Clerk's office to ask this organization for a definite date for the exhibit.

7. Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read in full a letter from the Waleria Civic Organization dated April 4, 1956, and signed by Bessie D. Slonecker, Secretary. This letter protested the rumored removal of park facilities from Waleria.

Councilman Benstead asked that a copy of this letter be sent to the Park and Recreation Commission.

Councilman Drale suggested the Mayor write a letter to the organization assuring them there is no intention of removing the park.

Mayor Isen instructed the City Manager to prepare such a letter for the Mayor's signature.

There were no objections, and the letter was ordered filed.

8. Request dated April 5, 1956, from the Goodwill Industries of Long Beach and the Harbor Area, signed by Walter L. Case, Executive Secretary, for a free license to permit pick-up of discarded materials for reconditioning and sale in their stores.

Councilman Schwab moved to grant the free license, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection, so ordered.

9. A reply from Torrance Sand and Gravel Products dated April 2, 1956, to the complaint of Mr. Ard to the City Council about the operation of the equipment of the Torrance Sand and Gravel Products.

There were no objections, and this letter was ordered filed.

10. April 2, 1956, letter to Geo. W. Stevens, City Manager, from the Torrance Sand and Gravel Products, outlining their activities toward the landscaping of their grounds.

There were no objections and this was ordered filed.

11. Letter dated April 5, 1956, and signed by Don C. Grayson, Trustee, from the South Bay Amateur Radio Association thanking the City Council for the use of the old Fire Station for their monthly meetings.

There were no objections and the letter was ordered filed.

12. Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read in full a letter dated March 4, 1956, from Ralph Weyant of 331 Via El Chico, praising the courteous behavior of Officer Don Hartell of the Torrance Police Department.

Councilman Benstead moved that a copy of this letter be sent to Officer Hartell and a copy be posted on the bulletin board in the Police Department.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

13. A request dated April 6, 1956, from the Salvage Week Committee of the Salvation Army to conduct their annual Salvage Week Campaign in Torrance during the week of April 23 - 28, 1956.

Councilman Drale moved that the request be granted.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered.

14. A protest from Chief of Police Haslam dated April 5, 1956, against granting a request from Micro Race Track for a parking lot at 190th Street and Hawthorne Boulevard, and giving his reasons for such protest.

There were no objections, and this was referred to the City Attorney for his recommendation at the next regular meeting of the City Council.

15. A claim from Walter Perez for crop damage during the disastrous rains of January, 1956.

There were no objections, and this was ordered denied and referred to the City Attorney.

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16. A claim by Daniel Perez, also for crop damages during the rains of January, 1956.

This was also ordered denied and referred to the City Attorney.

In connection with the above two items, Mayor Isen instructed the City Clerk's office that when items of this kind, with Court titles, come to the City, they should not be put on the Council Agenda, but should be referred directly to the City Attorney's office.

17. A request dated March 27, 1956, from Fire Chief Benner for an appropriation of \$399.36 for the installation of draperies at Fire Station No. 3. A letter from the Fernand Barrett Company outlining the needs of the Fire Station was attached.

City Manager Stevens replied to a question from the Council by saying that he recommended this request be granted.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

18. Request from Recreation Director H. B. Van Bellehem, to have the Rohloff Company stain the two tennis courts at El Retiro Park. This was dated April 2, 1956, and enclosed a copy of the bid of the Rohloff Company.

After a short discussion of the merits of the work, Councilman Benstead moved to grant the request of the Recreation Director.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

1. Letter dated April 6, 1956, from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, recommending the release of Subdivision Bond on Tract No. 19305. Attached were a copy of a letter from C. W. Clemmer, Park Superintendent, regarding the trees in the parkways of this tract and a location sketch of the tract.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the City Engineer's recommendation that Subdivision Bond on Tract No. 19305 be released.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

2. April 6, 1956, letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, recommending release of Subdivision Bond on Tract No. 20504. Attached were a copy of a letter from C. W. Clemmer, Park Superintendent, regarding the trees in the parkways of this tract and a location sketch of the tract.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Engineer that the Subdivision Bond on Tract No. 20504 be released.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2904

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE CHANGING THE NAME OF ARLINGTON STREET
TO ARLINGTON AVENUE IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2904.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2905

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT DEED
TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF
TORRANCE FROM ROBERT ROOT SMITH AND SHIRLEY LOUISE
FELTS.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2905.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger presented to the Council an application from Wm. A. Love and Edward W. Lodge to operate a used car business to be known as the L & L Motor Sales at 21701 S. Western Avenue. This bore the approval of the Fire Department, the Building Department, Police Chief Haslam and the License Department.

Councilman Schwab moved that the license be granted.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objection, so ordered.

Chief of Police Haslam spoke to the Council, saying he would like to meet with the Traffic Commission either this week or next week.

After a short discussion, it was decided that the Commission would meet with Chief Haslam next week.

City Manager Stevens said Fire Chief Benner had gone to another meeting and could not be here tonight, so had asked him to tell the Council that the new Fire Truck will be at the Central Fire Station Thursday morning April 12, at about 10:30 A. M., and invited any of the Councilmen who wish to come and see this new equipment.

City Manager Stevens reported that McDonald Brothers are starting work on their industrial tract at Carson and Crenshaw, and in order to fully improve the street they must remove the eucalyptus trees along Crenshaw. He added that when the street is completed, these trees will have to be removed anyway, as they would be in the street proper if left alone. This removal would be in line with that which the City was forced to perform when the Fire Station was built at Carson and Crenshaw.

After some discussion, Councilman Schwab moved McDonald Brothers be permitted to remove the trees.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection, so ordered.

City Manager Stevens said the 19th of April has been set for the bid on the lot facing the Arlington Avenue Park. He reminded the Councilmen that the City had originally bid \$3,000 for this lot, and later cut the bid to \$2,000. He said the trustee for the estate which owns the lot had recommended that the bid in the amount of \$2,000 be accepted, but added that it might be necessary to increase the bid to \$3,000.

After a short discussion, it was agreed that the City Attorney should increase this bid to \$3,000 if, in his judgement, it became necessary.

Councilman Drale said he had recently attended a meeting in honor of Mayor Selby of El Segundo, who is retiring after 29 years of service. Councilman Drale asked that the City Attorney prepare a Resolution honoring Mayor Selby.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen brought up the matter of removal of political campaign signs and posters, saying they should be removed by the various candidates as soon as possible.

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Councilman Drale said he is making arrangements now to have his removed, and Councilman Benstead said he would attend to those he had posted, as well.

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 P. M.

By **Ervin J. Hallanger**

E. J. Hallanger
DEPUTY City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

Albert J. ...

Mayor of the City of Torrance